APPENDIX J
ECONOMIC EVALUATION

ST. MARIES RIVER PROJECT

DRAFT ECONOMIC EVALUATION

Prepared for
EMERALD CREEK GARNET COMPANY
FERNWOOD, IDAHO

Prepared by
SCIENCE APPLICATIONS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
BOISE, IDAHO

MARCH 2002

1 INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

Emerald Creek Garnet, Ltd. (ECG) has submitted an application with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to initiate dredge mining of alluvial garnet deposits on approximately 327.5-acres along the St. Maries River in Benewah and Shoshone counties in northern Idaho. The site contains approximately 133 acres of wetlands which will be temporarily filled by construction of isolation berms, topsoil and overburden stockpiles, work pads, and other discharges of dredged and fill material. The entire site would be mined over a period of about 20 years, with reclamation of mined properties occurring each year. Reclamation would consist of returning the land to pre-mining contours and reestablishing hydrology and plant communities appropriate to site conditions. The proposed action, which includes temporary filling of wetlands, requires a Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the USACE and, therefore, also requires the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

MINING PLAN

ECG currently mines 12 months of the year in six permit areas in Carpenter and Emerald basins near Fernwood, Idaho. Current mining practices include 98 percent wet panel mining with 2 percent dry panel mining in areas very near unminable stream channels. Dry panel mining is not routinely used. Under current production goals, ECG has 8 to 10 years of mining remaining in these areas. After 3 to 5 years of peak production, remaining mining areas would be in upper watersheds with limited mining seasons. Production would subsequently decrease for the remaining reserves.

Consequently, ECG is proposing to mine new areas along the St. Maries River, immediately below the Emerald Creek basin. ECG proposes to mine approximately 327.5 acres of privately held property along the St. Maries River in Benewah and Shoshone counties, of which 133 acres are wetlands in the current and historic river floodplains. The reserves identified in these areas would be mined over a 20-year period. The acres mined would vary annually, based on reserve concentration and corporate market strategies. The additional reserves identified in the proposed permit areas would dovetail into existing, permitted reserves and would provide ECG with 20 years of continual mining at their current production goals.

The mining plan for this proposed permit has been designed with two goals in mind: efficient extraction of garnet-bearing gravels, and a zero discharge policy that minimizes the possibility of compromised water quality. The second goal establishes decided constraints on the first goal. In order to mine without compromising water quality, past mining practices have been modified, new mining activities initiated, and additional equipment utilized.

The mining plan incorporates a number of design and operational elements with the specific goal of maintaining clean water. This is a time-tested plan applied to a single study area, however the plan will work equally well with the other study areas proposed in the mining plan. Throughout the course of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, the plan will be subjected to further study and refinement if required.

ECONOMIC EVALUATION

This Economic Evaluation serves as a baseline conditions report to support the permit application and the EIS by providing the background information necessary to assess the potential socioeconomic impacts of the proposed mining plan. Assessment of the socioeconomic characteristics of the region of influence, which includes Benewah, Shoshone, and Latah counties, considers existing demographics, economic activity, employment, income, and other relevant information about communities potentially affected by the proposed action. In accordance with Executive Orders 12898 and 13045 regarding environmental justice and protection of children, an evaluation of the minority, low income, and child populations in the region is also provided.

Following this introduction, the report is organized as follows: Section 2.0 Project Location and Description describes the geographic region of influence and ECG's presence in and contribution to the area, Section 3.0 Socioeconomic Evaluation presents and evaluates the social and economic characteristics of the region of influence, and Section 4.0 Environmental Justice and Protection of Children describes the minority, low income, and child populations in the region.

2 PROJECT LOCATION AND ECONOMIC HISTORY

PROJECT LOCATION

The region of influence for the economic evaluation includes Benewah, Latah, and Shoshone counties in Idaho. Benewah County was created in 1915 by an act of the state legislature, carving it from the southern part of then Kootenai County. Early settlers came to the area upon the completion of the Mullan Road in 1860, but most settlement occurred after 1880 when gold was discovered near St. Maries, the current Benewah county seat. The town of St. Maries, situated at the confluence of the St. Joe and St. Maries rivers, began as a mission founded in 1842 by Father Pierre-Jean DeSmet. In 1888, land claims were filed and the first sawmill was established on land now included in St.Maries. The advent of railroad, and the establishment of freight and passenger service by waterway from Coeur d'Alene Lake via the St. Joe River, bolstered the growing community, and in 1902 the town of St. Maries was incorporated.

Shoshone County was the first organized unit of government within Idaho boundaries, created in 1858 by the Washington Territorial Legislature as part of Washington. The county was reorganized by the Idaho Territorial Legislature in 1864, and reduced to its present-day size in 1904, with Wallace as the county seat. Mining put Shoshone County on the map--first gold strikes, and then silver and lead. Historically, the three-county region has been economically dominated by the forestry products and mining industries.

Latah County was created in 1864 as Lah-Toh County with Coeur d'Alene as county seat. Later actions dropped the name Lah-Toh and in 1867 put all of present-day Latah County into Nez Perce County. In 1888, Congress created the county as it is today, with Moscow as the county seat.

GENERAL ECONOMIC HISTORY AND THE MINING INDUSTRY

Idaho's economy is acutely dependent upon its natural resources—land, forests, minerals, and water. Agriculture, food processing, timber, tourism, mining, and minerals processing together account for well over half of the state's gross product. Idaho is a geographically diverse state with several distinct regional economies, consequently different resources play a primary role in each region. The economic landscape of northern Idaho is dominated by the timber industry, accounting for almost half of the region's gross production, while agriculture is the dominant resource-based industry in the south.

Mining became Idaho's first industry. Even today, more than 130 years after the discovery of gold, mining remains a keystone of the state's economy. Idaho provides the nation with the widest array of minerals of any state. Gold in central and southern Idaho, silver in the north and southwest, lead and zinc in the north, molybdenum in central Idaho, and phosphate in the southeast. Idaho's mining industry directly employs 5,000 individuals with an annual payroll of over $200 million (Idaho Mining Association 1999).

Mining and mineral processing continue to play an important role in Idaho's economic outlook. In 1996, Idaho produced and processed minerals valued at $882 million (see Table 2-1). The industry purchased $180 million of energy, supplies and services during that same year. In

addition, over $150 million was invested in Idaho capital assets. The production and processing of minerals in Idaho generated $11.7 million in local and state taxes and fees, and state, federal and tribal royalties.

Table 2-1. Mining in Idaho and Selected Characteristics (1996)

Mineral Production ($M)		**$ 882**
Phosphate	$577	
Gold	$135	
Molybdenum	$48	
Silver	$40	
Lead, Zinc, Copper	$19	
Other	$63	
Industry Purchases ($M)		**$ 180**
Energy	$56	
Supplies	$111	
Services	$13	
Capital Investment ($M)		**$ 154**
Taxes, Fees, and Royalties ($M)		**$ 11.7**
Property Taxes	$4.6	
Federal Royalties	$5.0	
Tribal Royalties	$0.3	
State Royalties	$1.1	
Mine License Fees	$0.9	
Mining Wages ($M)		**$ 202**
Mining Employment (Jobs)		**$5,388**

Source: Idaho Mining Association 1999.

During 1996, for each worker employed in mining, the average worker in Idaho's mining industry produced $164,000 of mineral value. The industry paid $37,500 in wages, $2,200 in taxes, fees and royalties, purchased $33,400 in goods and services and invested over $28,600 in capital assets. The average wage of a mining industry employee is more than four times the average annual wage earned in the tourism industry and 63 percent greater than the annual wage of the average Idaho worker.

EMERALD CREEK GARNET BACKGROUND

ECG and its predecessors have operated in the three-county region of Benewah, Shoshone, and Latah counties in northern Idaho for more than 50 years, recovering industrial grade garnet by dredge mining alluvial gravel deposits in both Emerald and Carpenter basins. Emerald Creek garnet is marketed worldwide for a variety of uses. In abrasive blasting, garnet has been used as a replacement for silica sand. As an abrasive, it can be recycled over six times as compared to one-time use with slag and silica products, the latter of which poses serious pollution problems with the potential release of arsenic, chromium, lead, and other heavy metals. Used in the oil industry, garnet has shown to be very effective in the recovery and flow of old wells that have marginal economic viability. Emerald Creek garnet is being increasingly used in municipal water treatment facilities where it not only outperforms its competitive products in filtration

capability, but its specific gravity and inertness also reduces maintenance and replacement costs.

Emerald Creek garnet is currently exported to Europe, Southeast Asia, Japan and the Middle East. The international market accounted for nearly 50 percent of sales in 1998. Emerald Creek garnet is normally sold to U.S. firms who use the garnet as a small, integral component of a larger product or service. For example, U.S. firms that build water purification systems in the Middle East use garnet from ECG as an integral part of the filter system.

Historical economic data for ECG are presented in Table 2-2. Full-time employment has ranged from 40 to 47. Additional seasonal employment has ranged from 11 to 18. Salaries have varied from $1,381,781 in 1994 to $1,818,850 in 1995. Sales (revenues) peaked at $6,789,390 in 1997. Salaries have been approximately a quarter of the revenues.

Table 2-2. ECG Employment, Salaries and Sales (1994-2001)

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Employees	58	64	58	58	57			
Full-Time	40	47	47	44	46			
Seasonal	18	17	11	14	11			
Salaries Paid ($)	1,381,781	1,818,850	1,455,077	1,400,737	1,488,669			
Sales (Revenues) ($)	5,838,252	5,920,842	5,825,281	6,789,390	6,067,503			

Source: Emerald Creek Garnet Company 1999.

Based on the industrial sector for miscellaneous nonmetallic metals (sector 47) that includes garnet mining (SIC 1499), a total employment multiplier of 2.187 was calculated for the three county region of influence (ROI) using the IMPLAN 2.0 model (Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. 2002). Assuming a baseline employment of an equivalent of 50 full-time employees (seasonal workers being considered to be the equivalent of half-time workers), current ECG Company activity is estimated to generate about 59 secondary jobs in the region (both indirect and induced). Therefore, a total of about 110 jobs in the region are currently attributable to ECG activities.

3 SOCIOECONOMIC EVALUATION

3.1 DEFINITION OF RESOURCE AND REGION OF INFLUENCE (ROI)

The socioeconomic resources of the potentially affected region, represented as the ROI, are characterized in terms of population and housing, economic activity and public finance. Because these resources would be interrelated in their response to ECG's proposed mining activities, their current condition is assessed in order to provide a basis for analyzing potential socioeconomic impacts. A change in employment, for example, may lead to population movements into or out of a region and, in turn, lead to changes in demand for housing and public services. The significance of any potential socioeconomic impacts associated with the proposed action will be evaluated in a subsequent EIS by comparing the parameters of the estimated impacts to the baseline conditions described in this economic evaluation.

The ROI for this analysis is comprised of Benewah, Latah, and Shoshone counties, which make up the area surrounding ECG's mining operation in Fernwood, Idaho. It is expected that potential socioeconomic impacts of the proposed action would be concentrated in this region. The proposed action involves the mining of approximately 327.5 acres of privately held property along the St. Maries River over a 20-year period. The acreage to be mined would vary annually, based on reserve concentration and corporate market strategies. The alternatives include a no action alternative and five project alternatives, each of which are a combination of mining types (wet and/or dry panel) and include oxbow avoidance alternatives.

3.2 POPULATION AND HOUSING

The ROI contained 57,827 persons in 2000, an increase of approximately 10.2 percent from the 1990 figure of 52,485 (see Table 3-1). The population in the ROI accounted for about 4.5 percent of the Idaho population of 1.293 million persons in 2000. Population of incorporated places in the three counties are presented in Table 3-2.

Table 3-1. Selected Demographic Information by County

	Benewah	Latah	Shoshone	ROI
1990 Population	7,937	30,617	13,931	52,485
2000 Population	9,121	34,935	13,177	57,827
1990 – 2000 Growth	14.9%	14.1%	-1.1%	10.2%
2000 Population Density	11.8/sq.mi.	32.4/sq.mi.	5.2/sq.mi.	12.9/sq.mi.
2000 Households	3,580	13,059	5,906	22,545
2000 Household Size	2.52	2.38	2.30	

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, DP-1 Profile of General Demographic Characteristics:2000

Table 3-2. Population of Counties and Places in the ROI (2000).

County	Place	Population 2000	Percent of County Population	Percent of ROI Population
Benewah		9,171		15.8%
	Parkline	65	0.7%	
	Plummer	990	10.8%	
	St. Maries	2,652	28.9%	
	Tensed	126	1.4%	
	Subtotal	3,833	41.8%	
Latah		34,935		60.4%
	Bovill	305	0.9%	
	Deary	552	1.6%	
	Genesee	946	2.7%	
	Juliaetta	609	1.7%	
	Kendrick	369	1.1%	
	Moscow	21,291	60.9%	
	Onaway	230	0.7%	
	Potlatch	791	2.3%	
	Troy	798	2.3%	
	Subtotal	25,891	74.1%	
Shoshone		13.771		23.8%
	Kellogg	2,395	17.4%	
	Mullan	840	6.1%	
	Osburn	1,545	11.2%	
	Pinehurst	1,661	12.1%	
	Smelterville	651	4.7%	
	Wallace	960	7.0%	
	Wardner	215	1.6%	
	Subtotal	8,267	60.0%	
Three-County ROI		57,877		100.0%

Source: Idaho Department of Commerce, 2002

The population of Benewah County, the 28th most populous county and 34th in area, was 9,121 persons in 2000, 14.9 percent more than the 1990 population of 7,937 persons. Latah County, the tenth largest county in population and 30th in area, has experienced a population increase of 14.1 percent since 1990 to 34,935 persons in 2000. Shoshone County, the 22nd largest in population and eighth in area, has declined 1.1 percent between 1990 and 2000.

Latah County is the most urban and densely populated county in the ROI, with a population density of 32.4 persons per square mile and about 66 percent of the population residing in urban areas. Shoshone County is the least densely populated, at 5.2 persons per square mile, and its entire population is defined as rural. According to the 2000 Census, there were 22,545 households in the ROI.

According to the 2000 Census, there were 25,133 housing units in the ROI, of which 22,545 were occupied (see Table 3-3). An estimated 14,782 of the occupied units were owner-occupied (65.6 percent), while the remaining 7,777 were renter-occupied (34.4 percent). There were 2,588 vacant units, which includes recreation homes, seasonal homes, and other housing classifications. Over half of the total housing in the ROI is located in Latah County (55 percent), with Benewah and Shoshone counties accounting for almost 17 percent and 28 percent, respectively.

Table 3-3. Housing Characteristics (2000)

	Benewah	Latah	Shoshone	ROI
Total Housing Units[1]	4,238	13,838	7,057	25,133
Occupied Units	3,580	13,059	5,906	22,545
Owner-occupied Units	2,812	7,670	4,260	14,762
Renter-occupied Units	768	5,389	1,620	7,777
Vacant Units	658	779	1,151	2,588
Vacancy Rate (%)	15.5	5.6	16.3	10.3
Median Housing Value (1990)	$43,964	$63,575	$32,641	$50,819
Median Gross Contract Rent (1990)	$246	$314	$240	$280

Notes: 1. Includes housing units such as recreational homes, migrant worker quarters, and others not designated either owner-occupied or rental units.
Source: U.S. Census Quickfacts Nov 2001

In 2000, vacancy rates in the ROI ranged from 5.6 percent in Latah County to 16.3 percent in Shoshone County. Of the vacant units, 53 percent were for seasonal, recreational or occasional use in Benewah County, 13 percent in Latah County and 33 percent in Shoshone County.

The median value of housing units in 1990 ranged from a low of $32,641 in Shoshone County to a high of $63,575 in Latah County, compared to the state median home value of $57,980. Median rent in the ROI ranged from $240 to $314 per month, compared to the state median monthly rent of $330.

From 1990 through 1999, 2,157 housing units were permitted for construction within the ROI, with a maximum of 320 units permitted in 1995 and a minimum of 123 units in 1990. During this period, 215 units were permitted on average annually within the ROI. Of these permitted units, 33 were in Benewah County, 165 in Latah County, and 17 in Shoshone County.

3.3 ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Natural resource-based industries play a primary role in the economies of the three-county ROI, as they do in the entire state of Idaho. Production of forest and wood products provides the foundation for the Benewah County economy. Total civilian employment in all industries as reported by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) grew from 3,149 to 3,891 or 23.6 percent from 1990 through 2000. Major employers include Potlatch Corporation (wood products mill), Joint School District No. 41, Crown Pacific, Regulas Wood Products Companies, Jack Buell Enterprises (freight), and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. The Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation, home of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, is located in the county.

The Latah County economy is heavily influenced by the University of Idaho, located in Moscow, the county seat. Total civilian employment grew from 13,263 to 14,641 or 10.4 percent between 1990 and 2000. Major employers include the University of Idaho, Gritman Memorial Hospital, Wal-Mart, Bennett Lumber, and GTE Telephone. Latah County also has some of the richest farmland in the United States.

While mining is the traditional economic foundation of Shoshone County, tourism and recreation are growth sectors. Total civilian employment in the country grew from 5,503 to 5,823 or 5.8 percent from 1990 to 2000. Major employers include Sunshine Mining Company, Hecla Mining Company, Silver Valley Labs, Shoshone Medical Center, and Magnuson Enterprises. Silver Mountain Ski Resort, home of the world's longest single-stage gondola, is a popular visitor destination.

Employment

The full- and part-time civilian labor force in the ROI amounted to 26,156 individuals in 2000, with an average unemployment rate of 6.9 percent (see Table 3-4). Unemployment rates ranged from a low of 3.4 percent in Latah County to 11.1 percent and 12.4 percent in Shoshone and Benewah counties, respectively. Civilian employment in Benewah County (3,891 jobs) is centered in St. Maries, with about half of the jobs located in its environs. Civilian employment in Latah County (14,641 jobs) is concentrated in Moscow, primarily due to the presence of the University of Idaho. Civilian employment in Shoshone County (5,823 jobs) is dispersed throughout the county, however Kellogg is the community providing the most jobs.

Table 3-4. Labor Force Characteristics (2000)

	Benewah	Latah	Shoshone	ROI
Civilian Labor Force	4,444	15,164	6,548	26,156
Civilian Employed	3,891	14,641	5,823	24,355
Civilian Unemployed	553	523	725	1,801
Unemployment Rate (%)	12.4	3.4	11.1	6.9

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2002.

Based on information from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), there were 31,030 full- and part-time jobs in the ROI in 1999 (see Table 3-5). State and local government, accounting for 7,567 jobs, was the largest employment sector in the ROI (24.4 percent of total), with the services sector coming in a close second with 7,395 jobs (23.8 percent of total). The retail trade industry employed 5,764 workers, or 18.6 percent of the regional total, followed by the manufacturing sector which employed 2,602 workers (8.4 percent).

Table 3-5. Full and Part-time Employment by Industry (1999)[1]

	Benewah	Latah	Shoshone	ROI
Farming	270	878	45	1,193
Ag. Svcs., Forestry, and Fisheries	(D)	(D)	82	(D)
Mining	(D)	(D)	769	(D)
Construction	241	765	494	1,500
Manufacturing	1,093	1,018	491	2,602
Transportation and Public Utilities	328	515	190	1,033
Wholesale Trade	77	44	94	215
Retail Trade	640	3,843	1,281	5,764
Finance, Ins., and Real Estate	170	829	300	1,299
Services	1,080	4,848	1,467	7,395
Federal Civilian	69	229	127	425
Federal Military	39	194	59	292
State and Local Government	654	5,832	1,081	7,567
Total	4,820	19,730	6,480	31,030

Notes: 1. Employment is reported by place of work and does not necessarily coincide with the number of workers residing in the region.
2. (D) Data not shown because of confidentiality. However, the figures are included in the total.

Source: U.S Bureau of Economic Analysis CA25 May 2001.

Shoshone County has the largest mining industry presence in the ROI with 769 mining jobs. Mining accounts for close to twelve percent of total employment in Shoshone County, representing the fourth largest sector after services, retail trade, and state and local government. It should be noted that a number of the jobs reported in the manufacturing sector are associated with mineral processing operations, therefore the mining sector alone, as an employment sector, does not fully account for all jobs associated with the minerals industry.

Income and Earnings

Earnings in the ROI totaled approximately $702 million in 1999 (BEA 2001). The distribution of earnings across industries is very similar to the distribution of employment, with state and local government, services and retail trade representing the largest income producers. Earnings per job ranged from $21,496 in Latah County to $25,741 in Benewah County, with an average earnings per job for the ROI of $22,627 (see Table 3-6). Employment in the mining industry provided the highest average earnings per jobs of any sector, amounting to $44,675 per job in Shoshone County, which is approximately double the overall average earnings per job in the ROI. (For the State of Idaho, the average earnings for the mining industry is $50,609. Because of confidentiality, no equivalent data for Benewah and Latah is available for 1999).

In 1999, Benewah County had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $19,064. This PCPI ranked 22nd in the state, and was 83 percent of the State average, $22,871, and 67 percent of the national average, $28,546. PCPI in Latah County for 1999 was $21,391, ranking 31st in the state, and was 93 percent and 75 percent of the state and national averages, respectively. Shoshone County has a PCPI of $19,426 in 1999, ranking 25th in the state, and was 85 percent of the state average and 68 percent of the national average. According to the State of Idaho in 1999, median household income in the ROI ranged from a low of $31,662 in Shoshone County to a high of $37,023 in Latah County, compared to the 2000 estimate from the U.S. Census for the state and national median income of $37,210 and $41,349, respectively.

Table 3-6. Income and Earnings

	Benewah	Latah	Shoshone	ROI
Total Personal Income ($000) – 1999	$ 172,833	$ 695,397	$ 265,238	$ 1,133,468
Per Capita Personal Income – 1999	$ 19,064	$ 21,391	$ 19,426	-
Total Earnings by Place of Work ($000) – 1999	$124,071	$424,124	$153,926	$702,121
Average Earnings per Job –1999	$ 25,741	$ 21,496	$ 23,754	$ 22,627
Average Earnings per Mining Job – 1997 for Benewah, Latah; 1999 for Shoshone	$ 115,952	$ 40,310	$ 44,675	-
Median Household Income – 1999	$ 32,802	$ 37,023	$ 31,662	-

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, CA5.2 and CA30, May 2001.
U.S. Census Bureau, State and County QuickFacts 2002.

Total earnings (unadjusted for inflation) of persons employed in Benewah County increased from $84 million in 1990 to $124 million in 1999, an average annual growth rate of 4.4 percent. In terms of earnings, the largest industries in 1999 were manufacturing (30 percent), services (16 percent), and state and local government (14 percent).

Earnings of persons employed in Latah County increased from $281 million in 1990 to $424 million in 1999, an average annual growth rate of 4.7 percent. The largest industries in 1999 were state and local government (45 percent), services (18 percent), and retail trade (11 percent).

Earnings in Shoshone County increased from $134 million in 1990 to $154 million in 1999, at an average annual growth rate of 1.5 percent. The largest industries in 1999 were state and local government (20 percent), mining (22 percent), and services (15 percent). The slowest growing industry from 1990 to 1999 was mining, which decreased at an average annual rate of 5.3 percent.

3.4 PUBLIC FINANCE

The ROI for public finance consists of the local governmental units that are expected to experience the majority of the effects of the proposed project. These jurisdictions are the three counties of Benewah, Latah and Shoshone. The financial statements for Latah and Shoshone counties, as reported in the annual audited reports, are presented in Table 3-7. (The figures listed are identified as total [memorandum only] in the annual report.)

For Latah County in FY2000, with total revenues of $8,569,215, the principal sources were from taxes (mainly from property) which contributes about 61 percent of the total county revenues, intergovernmental revenues (18 percent) and service fees (10 percent). The principal categories for expenditures (total $9,008,047) were public safety (52 percent), general (27 percent) and health and welfare (7 percent). There was a net deficit of about $438,832 or about 5 percent of the total revenues.

For Shoshone County in FY2000, with total revenues of $7,462,525, the principal sources were intergovernmental revenues (42 percent), taxes (33 percent) and miscellaneous (10 percent). The principal categories for expenditures (total $9,158,994) were for roads (28 percent), general government (28 percent), and public safety (23 percent). There was a net deficit of about $1,696,469 or about 23 percent of the total revenues.

Property taxes in 2001 were $5,632,703 for Benewah County, $22,999,124 for Latah County, and $10,550,233 for Shoshone County.

Table 3-7. Public Finance Data FY2000

	Benewah	Latah	Shoshone
Revenues	Note 1		
Taxes		5,228,540	2,431,886
Licenses and permits		101,955	189,588
Intergovernmental		1,556,098	3,134,365
Service fees		841,750	644,757
Interest on Investments		411,546	
Fines			92,058
Trust Receipts			195,052
Miscellaneous		429,325	774,819
Total Revenues		8,569,215	7,462,525
Expenditures			
General		2,428,180	2,604,528
Public safety		4,676,677	2,084,462
Roads			2,595,652
Agriculture		264,450	
Sanitation			29,884
Health and Welfare		648,859	739,108
Education		30,257	162,897
Culture and recreation		243,082	94,585
Trust Turnovers			239,173
Planning and Building		517,455	
Capital Outlay			475,965
Principal Payments		180,000	
Debt Service		19,086	132,740
Total Expenditures		9,008,047	9,158,994
Surplus/(Deficit)		(438,832)	(1,696,469)
Property Taxes (CY2001)	5,632,703	22,999,124	10,550,233
Taxable Property Value (2001)	455,870,928 *	1,155,085,795	583,810,329

Notes: 1. Comparable information was not available for Benewah County.
2. Benewah Taxable Property Value for 1999.

Source: Latah County 2002; Shoshone County 2002.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Inocme Populations*, directs federal agencies to identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse health and environmental impacts on minority and low-income populations. Similarly, Executive Order 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*, addresses protection of children from disproportionate environmental health and safety risks from federal actions.

The environmental justice analysis focuses on the potential for minority populations, low-income populations and children living in the region to be disproportionately affected by implementation of the proposed action and alternatives. Resource impact conclusions were reviewed to identify potential impacts on human populations. If adverse impacts on human populations were identified, the specific impact to minority and low-income persons was then analyzed by comparing impacts on the general population (i.e., in the region of comparison) with impacts to minority and low-income populations to determine if there would be a disproportionate effect. The region of influence contains one or more local jurisdictions where most of the project impacts are expected to occur. For this project, the three counties of Benewah, Latah and Shoshone are the areas of concern.

Data used for the environmental justice analysis were collected from the 1990 Census. Although these data are now over a decade old, they represent the only complete, detailed, and accurate statistics available for counties, municipalities, and smaller census areas which address both minority population distribution and poverty. Although selected data from the 2000 Census is being released to the public on a periodic flow basis, poverty data for local areas will probably not be released until the latter part of 2002.

Minority populations are defined as persons of Hispanic origin of any race, Blacks, American Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts, Asians or Pacific Islanders. Low-income populations are defined as persons living below the poverty level.

Table 4-1 displays the total population, total minority population, percentage minority, total low-income population, and low-income percentage for these jurisdictions within the region, as well as for the region a whole and for the State of Idaho.

Table 4-1. Minority and Low-Income Populations (1990)

Area Name	Total Population	Minority Population	Percent Minority	Low-Income Population	Percent[1] Low-Income
Benewah County	8,095	870	10.7	1,279	16.3
Latah County	30,792	1,894	6.2	5,082	18.5
Shoshone County	13,440	566	4.2	2,228	16.2
ROI	52,327	3,330	6.4	8,589	17.5
State of Idaho	1,077,287	110,310	10.2	130,588	13.3

Note: 1. The percentage of low-income persons is calculated using a denominator that is less than total persons, since the Census Bureau excludes selected groups from the enumeration.
Source: US Census 2002

The region has 52,327 persons, 6.4 percent of whom are minority and 17.5 percent low-income. The percent minority is substantially less than the State of Idaho percentage of 6.4 percent. The percent low-income households is somewhat higher than the state average of 13.3 percent.

4.2 PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

Executive Order 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*, requires Federal agencies to ensure that their policies, programs, activities, and standards address potential risks that may disproportionately affect children. The order defines environmental health and safety risks as "risks to health or to safety that are attributable to products of substances that the child is likely to come in contact with or ingest." According to Census counts for 2000, 21.9 percent of the population in the ROI are children under the age of 18, compared to 28.5 in the State of Idaho.

4 REFERENCES

Hart, Patricia and Ivar Nelson. 1984. Mining Town. Idaho State Historical Society Press. Boise, Idaho.

Idaho Department of Commerce. 1999. County Profiles Benewah, Latah, and Shoshone counties. Website: http://www.idoc.state.id.us/idcomm/cntypro.html

Idaho Mining Association. 1999. Golden Dreams and Silver Linings: A History of Mining in Idaho *and* Modern Mining & Economic Impact in Idaho. Boise, Idaho.

IMPLAN. 2002. Regional socioeconomic data. Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. Stillwater, Minnesota. 2002.

Latah County. 2001. Audited Financial Statement for the Year Ended September 30, 2000.

Shoshone County. 2001. General Purpose Financial Statements as of September 30, 2000.

University of Idaho. n.d. The Role of Natural Resource-Based Industries in Idaho's Economy. Prepared by the College of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension System. Moscow, Idaho.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. 2001/2002. Census of Population and Housing. Summary Tape Files 1A and 3A. Website: http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet

U.S. Bureau of the Census. 2001/2002. Estimates of the Population of Counties by Age, Sex and Race/Hispanic Origin: 1990 Website: http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. 2001/2002. Regional Economic Information System. Website: http://bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis/

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2002. Employment and Unemployment for State and Local Areas. Website: http:/www.bls.gov